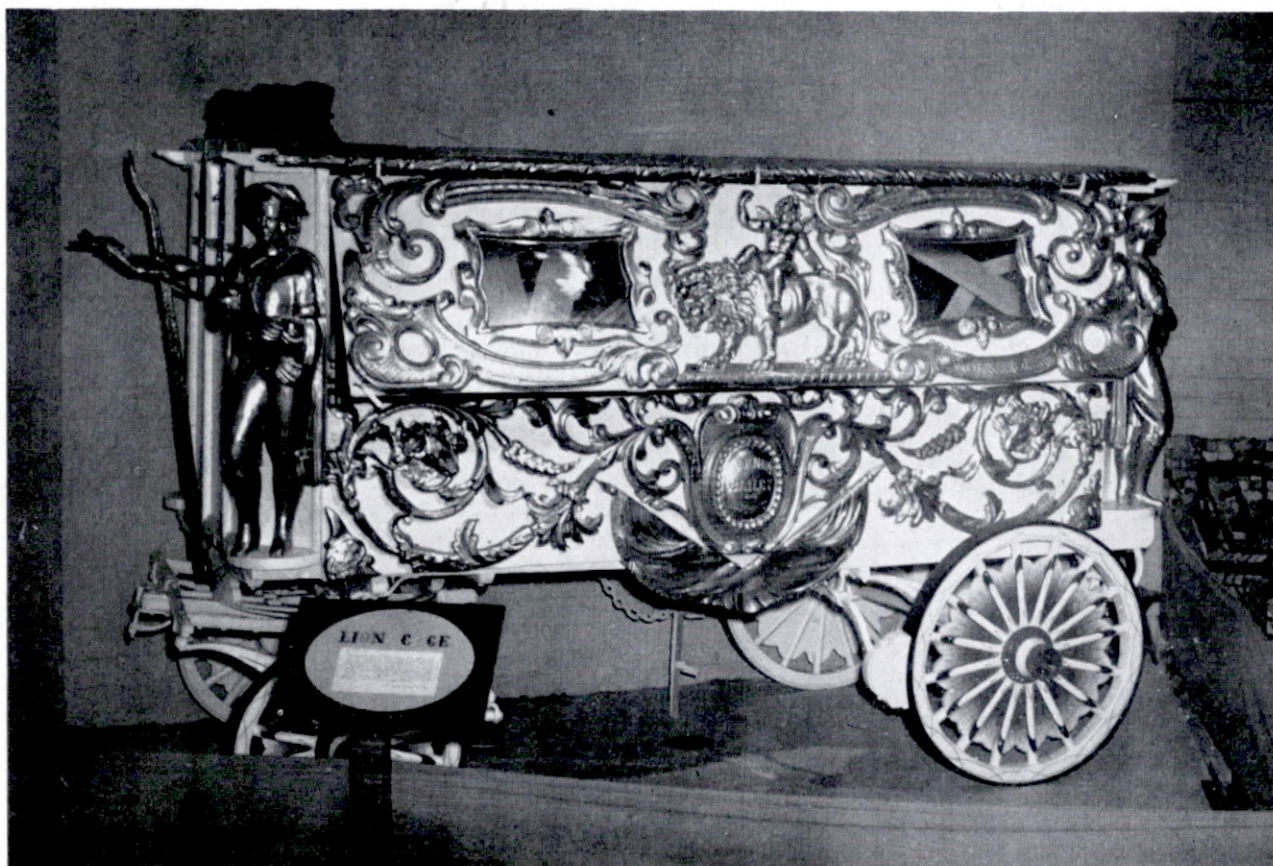


THE CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

BANDWAGON

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 4

JULY - AUGUST, 1959



This is the wonderful Barnum, Bailey & Hutchinson cage presented to the Circus World Museum in Baraboo by George W. Christy. Now completely restored, this alone makes the trip to Baraboo worthwhile.

THE CIRCUSIANA MAGAZINE

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Route 4, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin
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279 N. Main Street, Camden, Ohio
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P. O. Box 235, Richmond, Indiana

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Don Smith
Walter Tyson
Arthur Stensvaad
John Van Matre
Bette Leonard

CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1939

THE BANDWAGON

Vol. 3, No. 4 July-Aug., 1959

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Permission to copy articles in this magazine must be secured from both author and publisher.

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NEW CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS ADOPTED

Harry M. Simpson, Election Commissioner for the Circus Historical Society announces the following results of the voting to adopt the new Constitution.

156 Voted FOR the Constitution and By-Laws.

9 Voted AGAINST the Constitution and By-Laws.

1 Ballot was blank

166 Members voted

We think it is a step forward to have our constitution revised and put into working order, but the sad truth is that of the 409 members of the Circus Historical Society who were eligible to vote only 166 voted. We think that this is a disgraceful showing. This vote required no financial outlay and very little physical and mental labor. The mere marking of an X was all that was needed.

Let's not let this happen again. There is an article in this issue of the Bandwagon regarding the nomination of new officers for two year terms. There is an easily detached post card for your use. This is your opportunity to express your wishes. Don't "let George do it" DO it yourself today!

CHS President Pfening will be gone from his office in Columbus for four weeks starting August 14th. So there will be a delay in answering correspondence during this period.

JAMES MAC INNES

C.H.S. NO. 147

DIED JULY 3, 1959

ALBURTIS, PA.

CHARLIE KISTLER MISSES HIM —
AND SO DO WE ALL.

EDITORIAL

What is news today is history tomorrow. Some of our members are actively engaged in the circus world. In fact, three of those listed as new members are working directly in the circus. This means that they are actually making history that we will be writing about in a few years. I am sure that they will welcome fellow members when you visit their shows. These three are: Lou Turner, Mills Bros. elephant department; David Mullaney, with Ringling Bros. elephant department; and Capt Eddy Kuhns, with Cristiani. Welcome to our membership and keep up the good work.



This is the time that we have all looked forward to all year, making those last minute preparations for the Convention. We are looking forward to seeing our old friends—those who wouldn't miss a chance to get together—and also meeting all those new members that we have been writing to this past year. We are sure that each one will take something away from the convention to cherish. We also would like to invite those who are subscribers, and friends to come too.

AGNES W. KING, Editor

NEW MEMBERS

H. Don Williams ----- No. 826
190 Jane Drive,
Woodside, California
Benjamin J. Kronberger ---- No. 827
1069 East 17th Street,
Cleveland 19, Ohio
David G. Mullaney ----- No. 828
121 Main,
Quincy 69, Massachusetts
Lou Turner ----- No. 829
Mills Bros. Circus,
Jefferson, Ohio
Capt. Eddy Kuhn ----- No. 830
Box 105,
Sarasota, Florida
Frank H. Fischer ----- No. 831
1915 Atlin Street,
Duarte, California
Dr. Geo. E. Meeker ----- No. 832
67 W. Main Street,
Peru, Indiana
(Mrs.) Feral E. Meeker ----- No. 833
67 W. Main Street,
Peru, Indiana
Circus Hall of Fame ----- No. 834
P. O. Box 1072,
Sarasota, Florida
John Palinkas, Jr. ----- No. 835
R. D. 2,
Painted Post, New York
Earl Krauzer ----- No. 836
570 Willow Street,
Manchester, New Hampshire

REINSTATED

Garnett "Bud" Sims ----- No. 360
4363 Summit Road,
Muskegon, Michigan

NOTICE

The office of the Secretary-Treasurer will be closed from July 31, till August 13. We will be on our vacation, which of course, will include Baraboo.

Anything that you may wish to write us about after July 31 till Aug. 6, please send to our attention at the Warren Hotel, Baraboo, Wisconsin.



Thousands watch the ribbon cutting, opening the latest project of the Wisconsin State Historical Society.

CIRCUS WORLD MUSEUM

OPENS IN GRAND STYLE

Report and Photos by Fred D. Pfening, Jr.

July 1, 1959—Baraboo, Wisconsin. Today is a great day for the city of Baraboo. Perhaps never will it again have 40,000 people visit in one day.

The streets around the square were jammed with people as the parade started at 9:00 a.m. And what a parade it was—over 80 units took part. Following the circus theme of the day there were a large number of units that might have been part of an old time circus parade. The Sauk County Circus Band, under the direction of CHS Paul Luckey, was on a float made to look like a large circus bandwagon. Also on the float was movie star Rhonda Fleming.

Bill Morris, late of the Kelly-Morris and Benson Bros. circuses, was at the head of the march with his large elephant Blanche. The Lt. Gov. of Wisconsin rode the elephant.

A fine air calliope wagon with a six-pony hitch was outstanding. This wagon is very well decorated with carvings and resembles the steam calliope on Cole Bros. in 1939.

There were nine small cages pulled by tractors. These are part of the menagerie operated in connection with the museum. A number of these wagons came from CHS member F. C. Fisher. A cottage cage came from George Cole of Chicago. These have all been painted attractively and look great.

Retired show people and invited guests rode in open convertibles. In one car was CHS President Pfening, CHS Tom Parkinson, of the Billboard and a member of the Museum Board, and CHS Dr. H. H. Conley, Museum Board member and past President of the CFA.

The Father of the Circus World Museum CHS John M. Kelley was in the first car.

The parade ended in front of the Museum on Water Street. A reviewing stand was erected and the official party went to the stand after the parade.

Our CHS Vice-President Chappie Fox as chairman of the opening, introduced Miss Fleming and John M. Kelley as well as state officials. At this time the deed to the museum was formally turned over by Clark Wilkinson of the Circus World Museum, Inc. to Robert B. L. Murphy, president of the Wisconsin State Historical Society, who will operate it from now on.

Then John M. Kelley cut the ribbon and the crowds began to pour in for the first time.

The entrance to the museum is through the center of a fine new banner-lins, and leads into the open yard between the two buildings. The America steam calliope is parked here and steam rolled towards the sky as it played the Billboard March. Thousands of people jammed the museum and overflowed across the new foot bridge spanning the Baraboo river to the amusement area on the opposite side. Over here is the elephant ride, pony and mule rides, the menagerie and a refreshment stand. A free act was working, as will others throughout the summer. A ring curb and bleachers are for other acts that will appear.

The outstanding display, alone making a trip to Baraboo worth while, is the Barnum, Bailey & Hutchinson cage, donated by George Christy, of South Houston, Texas. This wagon is completely restored and painted and is truly breathtaking in appearance. In addition other wagons included the Gollmar mirror tab wagon, the Columbia tab, the America calliope, the Mother Goose and Old Woman in the Shoe pony tabs and a



The 60 x 90 foot tent housing the nine cage menagerie just across the river from the Museum. Elephant ride nearby.



CHS John M. Kelley, museum founder shown here with actress Rhonda Fleming, star of THE BIG CIRCUS.



Above the famous Gollmar Bros. Circus Mirror Bandwagon painted red and gold. Below, a view of the yard between the two main buildings housing the displays.





BANNER LINE — CIRCUS WORLD MUSEUM

concession wagon used on the Ringling Bros. wagon show.

CHS John Zweifel's fine model show is displayed with a group of circus oil paintings and a group of Atwell photographs.

Many costumes and props of performers are displayed, as well as programs and lithographs from foreign circuses.

The two buildings are painted bright red with blue roofs and look great. There is a small marquee leading into the large building containing the old wagons.

Only a small amount of the total material owned by the State Historical Society is now displayed, however the

quantity of material now out is most adequate for the opening. As time is available, additional material will be displayed and museum director-curator, CHS John Winn, expects to have considerably more material on display in August when the CHS convention is held in Baraboo.

At 8:00 p.m. the climax of the day began at the Al Ringling theater. The America calliope was playing and the crowd poured into the theater for the premiere of THE BIG CIRCUS. The movie's leading lady Rhonda Fleming appeared on stage and the Sauk County band played in the pit before the show began. The receipts went to the museum.

The Circus World Museum has held the special interest of the Circus Historical Society. Our members have given liberally of their time and money and have long looked forward to this big day. For Chappie Fox and John Kelley, especially, it was a dream come true. Both have worked long and hard to bring the museum to reality. Sharing this big day with these two men were the following CHS members: President Pfening, Art Ahrensmeyer, Dr. H. H. Conley, C. C. Day, Dick Carpenter, Mitch Gorrow, John Heidl, Charles Kitto, Hallie D. Olstadt, Steve Seipp, Jack Winn, Tom Parkinson, Frank Van Epps, Roland Wilde, Paul Luckey, Ed Gollmar, Bill Kasiska, August Moulton and John Zweifel.

THE BARABOO CONVENTION

AUGUST 7, 8, 9, 1959

All of us are getting ready for the 1959 Convention of the Circus Historical Society, to be held in Baraboo, Wisconsin, on August 7-8-9.

As we go to press, we are not able to give you the full program of the Convention. We can, however, tell you that the President's Reception will be on Friday evening, August 7, at the Warren Hotel. At this time we will have a showing of slides, movies both old and new, and an opportunity to cut up a lot of "jackpots." In connection with this, Eric Wilson asks that all who may have slides or movies bring them along for showing. Contact Eric upon your arrival in Baraboo.

On Saturday morning we will have the Annual Business Meeting of CHS. At 1:00 p.m. Saturday, will be the Ladies Luncheon, arranged by Agnes—it will

be good! This will be at the Warren Hotel also. Saturday evening will be the great Annual Banquet, also at the Warren.

Saturday evening, before the Banquet, we will be treated to a concert by the Sauk County Circus Band, at the World Museum of the Circus. This band is under the very able direction of Paul Luckey, and includes among its members, that very personable and fine "tooter" Frank Van Epps. (Applause Please.)

Other things include a tour of Baraboo, stressing the points of circus interest. And, of course, we will visit the Circus World Museum!! We call your attention to the story in this issue of the Bandwagon, about the opening of the museum.

There are one or two other events for your entertainment that we are working on, but cannot at this time make a

statement about them. We, however, have great hopes, and are sure that they will add greatly to your entertainment.

Things like a Convention cost money—and MUST be self-supporting. So that you may have everything under control, we want you to know that the Registration Fee for the Convention will be \$7. There will be no added costs or assessments, so far as we are concerned. Remember that there are a number of points of interest near Baraboo that you may wish to visit. We have found that in August, Wisconsin is a fine place to visit, and feel sure that all who come are in for a fine time. If any of our hoped-for entertainment comes to be, we will inform you about it. NOW—we just want you to plan to be there! We will be looking for you and for the pleasure of renewing old acquaintances and making new ones!



Baraboo Brothers Beguile

A TICKET TO THE CIRCUS

By Charles Philip Fox, Superior Publishing Company, Seattle.

C. P. "Chappie" Fox is Vice-President of the CHS and known to all of our members, but he is also known by everyone interested in the circus through his two earlier books, *CIRCUS TRAINS* and *CIRCUS PARADES*. Both of these books are to be found in all collections large or small. Both of these books were primarily photographs with a small amount of copy.

TICKET is also loaded with an extremely fine collection of photographs but in addition paints a glowing and descriptive word-picture of the Ringling Bros. Circus.

Although subtitled "the stupendous story of the incredible Ringling's," it is in reality much more expansive because it covers the Ringling's circus from its first year to its last year under the canvas.

Rather than follow this history chronologically from 1884 to date, integrating the events as they took place the author has covered the various phases and parts of the history by separate chapters. The early chapters do follow the famous brothers of Baraboo through their beginning years; the wagon show and their early basic philosophy of management which prevailed as long as the original Brothers headed the show.

The information covered in this part of the book far excels books previously published on the Ringling Family. Because Chappie lives in the Baraboo area he was able to locate old troupers and talk to them over a long period of time. Being personally acquainted with men like Henry Moeller, the circus wagon builder, John M. Kelley, for 30 years general counsel to the Ringling's, and Spot Welk, Ringling animal man, he was able to stimulate their memories and bring back happenings and experiences long forgotten.

The late Henry Steeps, President of the Baraboo National Bank, recalled how the express train arrived at 10:00 a.m. each morning with a large canvas money

sack from the circus. This represented the cash that was left in the till after all daily bills were paid. The bank divided the total by five and an equal share was put into the account of each brother. Sometimes there was \$2,000 and many times it was as high as \$20,000.

The book explains the peculiar formality of the brothers and how this was evident in their letters to each other and to outsiders. When Otto Ringling, for instance, would write to his brothers he would start the letter: "To Ringling Bros.," not "Dear Al, John, Charles and Alf T." When writing to the bank or to their parents letters might have been signed "Ringling Bros., per Otto R."

The pride of management began with the Brothers and went clear through the organization. Practices that were common on other circuses were taboo on the Ringling show. One main point brought out by this book is how astute business management allowed the show to grow over the years and absorb rivals and become "The Greatest Show on Earth" and remain in that position.

Perhaps the most valuable information is in the chapters covering different phases of the history. The chapter on tragedies not only covers the details of the Hartford fire, the Atlanta elephant poisoning and the 1938 Scranton labor strike, it also brings to light lesser known tragic accidents, such as the railroad wreck of May 17, 1892 while the show was enroute to Washington, Kansas. Forty head of horses were killed and there was considerable damage to the train but still only two shows were missed.

The chapter titled "Advertising" was especially interesting to me. In 1892 the Ringling Bros. World's Greatest Shows used four advance advertising cars. The No. 1 car was managed by A. G. Ringling. These were baggage cars or coaches, converted for this special use. Each car contained storage space for paper, an office for the car manager and bunks for the crew as well as a steam boiler used for cooking the paste. The sides of the cars were covered with fancy scroll lettering and colorful pictures that shouted the circus was coming.

The author defines such circus advertising expressions as "a hit," (a big

empty store window) and "hod" (a lithographers load of about 120 sheets of paper and dates). Fox quotes CHS member Eddie Jackson, a veteran lithographer of many years on the Ringling advance car. Eddie's sales pitch to a store owner was a good one, but you will have to read the book to hear it.

Other chapters cover circus trains, street parades, elephants and horses, rolling stock and winterquarters. Each of these details the kind of interesting facts that circus historians and circus fans find of special interest.

Lavish reproductions from couriers, lithographs and route books appear in the book. But the quality of the photographs is what puts this book ahead of similar efforts in the past. Chappie now shares many of his better photos, obviously taken and saved over the years especially for this particular book. Photographically there are pictures in this book that excell any I have ever seen of the circus. In addition he has reproduced the better Strobridge Lithograph Co. Ringling posters, being the only individual successful in recent years in causing the Strobridge people to dig these originals out of their files. A number of interesting letterheads and newspaper ads are clearly presented. Other unusual illustrations include a special poster printed in Chinese for San Francisco's Chinatown and a contract of 1906 calling for the Carl Hagenbeck circus to be purchased by the Ringling's. (Because of inability to get clear title to Hagenbeck name the deal fell through.)

In this book Fox demonstrates his fine ability to write circus history. The professional writing style is just what I would expect from him. The publisher has given his manuscript and illustration first class treatment from a graphic arts standpoint. The more expensive letterpress printing process is well worthwhile. The illustrations are large and VERY CLEAR.

This book most certainly should be in each collection and I suggest you get your copy now. *CIRCUS PARADES* is in the near rare book class and *TICKET TO THE CIRCUS* will also be in a few years.

TREASURER'S REPORT

CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JULY 1, 1958 TO JUNE 30, 1959

CASH ON HAND JULY 1, 1958 ----- \$ 859.37

RECEIPTS

Dues -----	\$1,795.00	
Subscriptions to Bandwagon -----	159.00	
Old Bandwagons sold -----	125.87	
Bandwagon ads -----	155.00	
Christmas ads -----	146.00	
*1958 Cristiani Route Books -----	1,083.00	
Dover Convention receipts -----	245.75	3,709.62
		<hr/>
		\$4,568.99

DISBURSEMENTS

Bandwagon printing -----	\$ 795.30	
Bandwagon cuts -----	359.02	
Bandwagon Postage -----	143.70	
**Cristiani Route Book Expense -----	926.63	
Dover Convention expenses -----	214.70	
Stamps and Miscellaneous Postage -----	218.06	
Bank charges -----	11.89	
Printing Rosters and Envelopes -----	120.50	
For Members - Cristiani Route Books -----	310.00	
Envelopes and Office Supplies -----	84.03	
1959 Convention -----	12.00	3,195.83
		<hr/>
BALANCE JUNE 30, 1959 -----		\$1,373.16

* This includes \$310.00 for CHS members Cristiani route books.

** This includes Composition, Printing, envelopes and mailing expense.

They Said It Couldn't Be Done—We Did It!

By Don F. Smith, Founder of CHS

This year, 1959, marks the Twentieth Anniversary of the Circus Historical Society, and the editor of the *Bandwagon* has requested me to give an account of how it all began. Following is the complete story, never before in print.

Back in the early thirties, Charles Bernard, an ex-showman and one of the first dealers in Circus Photos advertised frequently in the *Billboard*. I ordered prints from him on several occasions and during correspondence which followed, we discussed the possibility of an organization of Circus Collectors. During 1932 or 33 he wrote an article in the *Billboard* and mentioned the above idea, but there was little response. I was deeply interested from the start and proposed such a group in most of my letters to Fans and Collectors from that time forward, altho Bernard gave up his efforts, and passed away a short time later.

During those years, most fans were content to visit a circus when and if it

played in their own town. However, I believe that I was one of the first to travel from city to city, and State to State, recording the shows with my camera, and as a consequence, became personally acquainted with many of the Circus owners and performers, and most of the collectors within several hundred miles. My correspondence reached around the world and I was honored with requests from Hagenbeck in Germany, and Wirth in Australia, for my photos of American circuses. In 1937 I followed the Tom Mix Circus from Chicago to Findlay, Ohio and finally to Dunkirk, New York and Toronto Canada where the show was featured at the Canadian National Exhibition. On the lot at Dunkirk were several other circus fans from that area, including Jack Harris, Frank Norton, Bill Koford, and others whom I had written to, but never met before. I again mentioned a national group of Circus Collectors, but all of the above

collected only circus photos, and were in favor of a Circus Photo Club. During the next year we tried to interest others without much real success.

Early in 1939 I joined CFA to help with arrangements for their National Convention, being held with Parker and Watts Circus in Ann Arbor, Michigan. At the convention, I suggested that in some way, CFA members might become interested in collecting items for a Circus Museum, with perhaps a page of *White Tops* devoted to such efforts in each issue. I was treated coldly by all who heard me, and especially by Harry Hertzberg, who stated that he had collected "all the worthwhile Circus material available," and would someday start his own museum. Mr. Hertzberg had the financial means to make his dream come true a few years later, and the Hertzberg Collection in the San Antonio Library is said to be one of the finest in the country.

(Continued on Page 11)



Pietschman Photo

Left to right—Terrell Jacobs, Host to First National Convention of Circus Historical Society, Peru, Indiana, April 11-14, 1946; Burt L. Wilson, Guest Speaker, representing C.F.A.; Don F. Smith, Founder of the Circus Historical Society, and Convention Chairman.

Charlie Puck's Oldtime Snapshots



Al G. Barnes Circus winter quarters, Culver City, California, February 24, 1924.
Note old John Robinson Ten Big Shows "cottage" cage
and No. 185 Mirror Tableau.

1959 CRISTIANI BROS. CIRCUS ROUTE BOOK TO BE PUBLISHED

Fred D. Pfening, Jr. has been authorized by the Cristianis to publish their 1959 route book. Photos and information on the Cristianis show in your town will be very helpful. Please send directly to Fred as you did in 1958. He expects to make this book even better than last year.

TRAMPOLINE HISTORY

The American Trampoline Company of Jefferson, Iowa is interested in obtaining information regarding early day trampoline acts. They are trying to determine when trampoline acts first appeared in the circus. They also would like to obtain dated programs, heralds, route books, or other material, that might use the word "trampoline" or show a photo of a trampoline. Any information would be greatly appreciated by them.

Two dramatic tent showmen had a fling at the circus business. In August 1935, Harley Sadler bought the Bailey Bros. equipment. He announced that he would operate a three ring circus with himself as sole owner and manager. Tol Teeters had a 3 ringer, called Orange Bros. Neither lasted long.

1865-1959 CIRCUS PHOTOS

Post Card Size Circus Photographs — Just To Mention A Few!

20 Assorted—1908 Barnum & Bailey	5.00	21 Assorted—1935 Cole Bros. Parade	3.75
20 Assorted—1909 Ringling Bros.	5.00	16 Assorted—1936 Cole Bros. Parade	3.00
20 Assorted—1909 Miller Bros. 101 Ranch	5.00	18 Assorted—1938 Robbins Bros. Parade	3.50
20 Assorted—1910 Buffalo Bill Wild West Show	5.00	58 Assorted—1944 Sarasota Winterquarters and	
20 Assorted—1912 Barnum & Bailey	5.00	Ringling Art Museum	10.00
20 Assorted—1914 Barnum & Bailey	5.00	11 Assorted—1959 Cristianis Bros. Circus	2.20
30 Assorted—1915 Ringling Bros.	7.00	11 Assorted—1957 Clyde Beatty Circus	2.20
11 Assorted—1920 Sells-Floto	2.00	13 Assorted—1957 Old Ringling Baraboo Wis.	
10 Assorted—1924 Bridgeport Conn.		Quarters and H. W. Peru Qtrs.	2.60
Winterquarters	2.00	10 Assorted—1958 Cristianis Bros. Circus	2.00
10 Assorted—1930 Al G. Barnes Circus Wreck	2.00	6 Assorted—1958 Ringling Barnum & Bailey-	
20 Assorted—1934 Hagenbeck Wallace Parade	3.75	Hershey, Pennsylvania	1.20
		6 Assorted—1959 Clyde Beatty Circus	1.20

Famous Old Circus Parade Wagons and Tableaus

The finest circus wagons of the past including: "Two Hemispheres," "Five Graces," Carillon Chimes Wagon, "Europe," "Asia," "Africa," "Egypt," "Great Britain," "Russia," "Germany," "Spain," "Elephant," "Golden Age of Chivalry," "Fairy Tales," "Funny Folks," "Gladiator," "Queen of Balkis," "King's Royal Chariot," "Lion & Snake," "Two Jesters Calliope," Ringling Snake Wagon, Sells-Floto Canvas Spool.

GLOSSY 5 x 7 Photos 50¢ Each
Or 12 for \$5.00

NOTE — Hundreds of Other Circus Photos Available — NOTE

Send Only 25¢ For Complete Descriptive Catalog & Sample Photo

1609 Turner Street

ROBERT D. GOOD

Allentown, Penna.

SAID IT COULDN'T BE DONE

(Continued from Page 9)

try. Never-the-less I came home from the Ann Arbor convention more determined than ever to form the Circus Historical Society, which by this time had been chosen as our name. But everyone told me that "it could not be done."

During that year I had visited often with Bette Leonard, who appeared with Seils-Sterling Circus in many Michigan and Indiana stands, and she was most enthused with the idea. Bette promised to contact as many Fans and Collectors as possible during the circus tour, and we were on the way. By the end of 1939, a dozen active collectors were lined up, and we announced that the Circus Historical Society had been organized. However, two of our prospects—Jack Harris and Spencer Stine—decided not to join at once, leaving Ten Charter Members at the beginning. These were as follows:

1. Don F. Smith, president, and director of public relations.
2. Walter Tyson, vice-president.
3. Walter Pietschman, sec'y-treas.
4. Arthur Stensvad
5. Bette Leonard
6. Bill Kasiska
7. Robert Green
8. Eddie Jackson
9. Bill Green
10. Charlie Campbell

Our first publication was called "Spec" and altho we had many compliments on its historical content, there seemed to be considerable confusion as to the meaning of the title, and after a few issues the name was changed to The Bandwagon. This seemed quite appropriate as we had set as our goal, the purchase of a Circus Bandwagon to be presented to some worthy museum, and the several geographical divisions of the Society were to be named after famous parade wagons. I had been Editor of Spec, and continued in that post on the Bandwagon, in addition to writing a column for the Billboard, and my several other duties. The first issue of the Bandwagon under its new title was printed by Fred Pfening, and then turned over to Walter Tyson, the second president of CHS. Tyson was probably Canada's leading Fan and Circus Collector, and had corresponded with me for many years. Walter Pietschman and I had enjoyed several interesting visits at the Tyson home in Guelph, Ontario during the early months of CHS, altho travel was being restricted due to the start of World War II which Canada had already entered. All of those first ten members were especially helpful with constructive ideas and cash when it was needed. When we could not get out an issue of Bandwagon due to lack of funds in the treasury, it was necessary to dig into our own pockets, or go out and sign up more members, and to the credit of all, we did both.

At the close of the war, there was an urge to hold our first National Convention, and Terrel Jacobs immediately offered to sponsor our meet at his quarters near Peru, Indiana. Art Stensvad,

who had been elected president at the start of 1946, resigned a few weeks later, after sending me a telegram to proceed with plans for the convention in Peru. As Chairman, I appointed Terrel Jacobs, Chalmer Condon, and Bob Green to our convention committee, with the addition of John VanMatre who assumed the office of president after Stensvad stepped out. Bob Green, Walt Pietschman, and I made several weekend trips to Peru to arrange all details with Terrel and Condon. Bob Green was our "24 hour man" and travelled to Peru several days in advance to handle the final arrangements. Terrel Jacobs was the ideal host and threw his quarters open to our members for the entire weekend, with a grand performance on Sunday afternoon, starting with his big cat act, and concluding with Elephants worked by Spencer Huntley. At least a dozen members who attended that first convention have passed to the Big lot—among them Terrel Jacobs, Dad White, Duke Graf, Pop Bauman, Doc Powers, Ed Hilhouse, John Havirland, and William West, husband of Mrs. West at the Peru Museum. However, I will remember them forever, for they helped me celebrate one of the proudest moments of my life. That first convention, seven years after the founding of the Circus Historical Society, and with 104 persons at the banquet, was the answer to those who said "It couldn't be done." It was the Greatest!

Now, we are Twenty Years old, and I believe through our efforts, the world has become Circus Museum conscious. Today there is definite assurance that the few remaining Circus treasures may be preserved for posterity, because of The Circus Historical Society.

Editor's Note: Of the 10 charter members, 8 are still members of CHS.

SUPER CIRCUS 16mm SOUND FILM

COSTIS CHIMPS

KALMAR WIRE ARTIST

THREE GREECHAN
BROTHERS

Each reel has band numbers and
Midway or Menagerie.

\$13.00 Per Reel

LOU HAYEK
TOLEDO, IOWA

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

According to the new Constitution and By-Laws of the Circus Historical Society, adopted July 10, 1959, it is now time for the nomination of officers. In Article VI of the By-Laws, it is stated that a postal card shall be enclosed with the July-August issue of the Bandwagon, in order that you may express your wishes about whose names shall appear on the ballot. This card, addressed and ready to mail, is attached hereto. It is pointed out that one person may not run for more than one office. The nominations MUST be in the hands of the Election Commissioner on September 10, 1959. We call your attention to the fact that a card postmarked September 10 does not fill the law as stated.

The two persons receiving the highest number of nominations for each office shall have their names appear on the ballot. Each of these persons shall be notified that they have been nominated, and if anyone declines to run, then the next highest shall be nominated, etc.

You will then send in a nomination for President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. We call your attention to the fact that, unlike in other years, no nomination will be made for Editor of the Bandwagon. This office will be filled by appointment by the President and Directors of CHS.

The officers elected in 1959, shall take office January 1, 1960, for a period of 2 years.

We have called to your attention in another article in this issue, that only 166 out of 409 voted on the Constitution and By-Laws. Let us all give this nomination a good think, and let us have 100% reply on this matter.

HALL OF FAME AWARDS COMMITTEE TO MEET DURING CONVENTION

Mr. W. W. Naramore, Jr., managing director of the CIRCUS Hall of Fame in Sarasota will attend the CHS convention in Baraboo. He expects to meet with CHS members who are members of the Hall of Fame Awards Committee.

The CIRCUS HALL OF FAME is a new member of the Circus Historical Society. Mr. Naramore is anxious to talk to anyone with suggestions about the awards.

BOB TABER SAYS

Barnett Bros. played a 40 week season opening in South Caroline, April 11, 1933, closing in January, 1934.

In the Spring of 1934, Art Windecker opened as side show manager on the Al G. Barnes circus. I worked my Monkey circus for him when he had the side show at the Pollock date for the Shrine in San Francisco in 1937. Later he was in the side show department of the Ringling show.

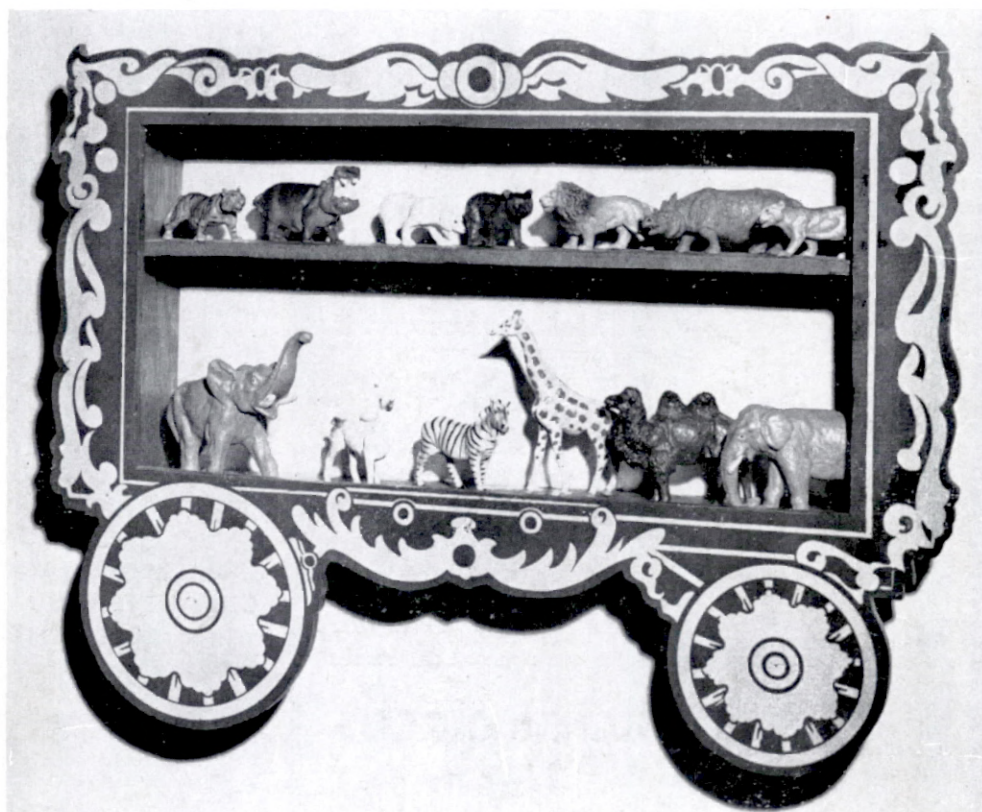
The Barnes show that season made a transcontinental tour, travelling 20,082 miles; exhibiting in 19 states and 8 provinces. Was out 30 weeks.

CIRCUSIANA FROM FREDDIE DAW

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